

LIBRARY



URBAN DISTRICT OF SUNBURY -ON- THAMES
=====



A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
=====

For the year
=====

1 9 4 8
=====

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

1 9 4 8

Chairman: Councillor B. P. Barker

Vice-Chairman: Councillor L. W. Osborn

Councillors: H. Clarkson, A.E. Cornfield, J. Dill-Smith,
A.T.J. Goddard, J.H. Kaye, A.W. Mason,
W.E.S. Morgan and A.H. Balaam (Ex-Officio)

=====

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

(a) Medical Officer of Health (Part time)

R. Arnallt Jones, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

(b) Sanitary Inspector

T.J. Moore, M.R. San. I., M.S.I.A.

(c) Additional Sanitary Inspector

A.E. Pooley, M.S.I.A. (resigned February 1948).

T.B. Hood, M.S.I.A. (resigned September 1948).

(d) Student Sanitary Inspector

B. A. Irwin.

(e) Clerk Mrs. O. W. Lukyn

=====

URBAN DISTRICT OF SUNBURY-ON-THAMES

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	5,689
Population (Estimated by the Registrar-General for 1948)	...	...	...	...	...	22,140
Rateable Value (December 1948)	...	...	...	...	...	£216,000
Product of a 1d rate	...	...	...	...	...	£856

To the Chairman and Members of
the Sunbury-on-Thames Urban District Council,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the District during 1948.

The Report summarizes the following subjects: statistics and social conditions, health services, sanitary circumstances, inspection and supervision of food, and the prevalence and control of infectious disease. Other details of the sanitary circumstances and inspections are recorded in the report of your Sanitary Inspector.

The Birth rate has fallen slightly from the high peak of the post-war years, but it remains at a higher level than that of England and Wales. The Death rate, on the other hand, is lower than in previous years. Thus, in comparison with 1947 we have 12 fewer births and 32 fewer deaths. Of the 194 deaths registered, 96 were of persons over 70 years of age, 51 being between 70 and 79, 37 between 80 and 89, and 8 over 90 years of age. There were no deaths from infectious disease and none from maternal causes.

The Infant Mortality rate was 36.4 in 1948 and 30.7 in 1947. Of the 15 deaths among infants, 4 were attributable to congenital defects and 5 to broncho-pneumonia.

Though there was no serious outbreak of Infectious Disease, 55 more cases have been notified; the increase was almost entirely due to measles, 157 cases being notified as compared with 97 in 1947. When compared with the previous year, notifications of scarlet fever (32 cases) and of whooping cough (48 cases) show an increase of 1 and a decrease of 2 respectively. For the fourth successive year, there were no cases of diphtheria.

The list of applicants for houses remains formidable. Nevertheless during the year the Council erected 161 dwellings - a gratifying achievement, contributing in no small measure to the happiness and therefore the health of the community.

On the 5th July 1948, the National Health Service Act came into force and it is appropriate to refer briefly to the effect on this Authority. For the purpose of the Act, the Urban Districts of Sunbury, Feltham and Staines and the Borough of Twickenham constitute No. 10 Area within the County. Under powers delegated by the County Council, the Area is administered by the Area Health Committee on which this Council is represented by two elected members. The Ambulance Service is now administered by the County Council. The Staines Joint Isolation Hospital passes to the control of the North West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board. Diphtheria Immunisation has become the responsibility of the Area Health Committee under powers delegated by the County Council.

In conclusion I take this opportunity of thanking the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. T.J. Moore, and his Assistants for their friendly co-operation during the year and of acknowledging my indebtedness to Mrs. Lukyn for the careful manner in which she keeps the records and for her assistance with this report.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

R. ARNALLT JONES

Medical Officer of Health.

Council Offices,
Sunbury-on-Thames Urban
District Council.
July, 1949.

(2)

Section A

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1948
(Figures in brackets are for the previous year)

LIVE BIRTHS

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	191	193	384
Illegitimate	10	17	27
	<u>201 (212)</u>	<u>210 (211)</u>	<u>411 (423)</u>

Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population
18.56 (19.6)

England & Wales 17.9 (20.5)

STILLBIRTHS

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	4	1	5
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<u>4 (7)</u>	<u>1 (2)</u>	<u>5 (9)</u>

Stillbirth Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population
0.22 (0.41)

England & Wales 0.42 (0.50)

Stillbirth Rate per 1000 live and still births 12.02

DEATHS (All ages) (See Table 1)

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
	102 (127)	92 (99)	194 (226)

Death Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population
8.7 (10.48)

England & Wales 10.8 (12.0)

CHIEF CAUSES OF DEATH

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Heart Diseases	25	26	51 (38)
Cancer	16	17	33 (53)
Bronchitis & Pneumonia & Other Respiratory Diseases	11	9	20 (22)

Deaths from Puerperal causes ... Nil
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) .. Nil

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE

	<u>Legitimate</u>	<u>Illegitimate</u>
Males	9	-
Females	6	-
	<u>15</u>	<u>-</u>
Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 live births.	36.4	(30.7)
England & Wales	34	(41)

CAUSES OF DEATH UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE

<u>Causes</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Congenital Heart Disease	2	2	4
Broncho Pneumonia	2	3	5
Other infections	1	1	2
Prematurity	1	-	1
Birth Injury	1	-	1
Gastro Enteritis	1	-	1
Atelectasis	1	-	1
Totals	9	6	15

Nine died under 4 weeks of age.

Table 1

CAUSES OF DEATH - REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S OFFICIAL RETURN

For the year 1948

	Males	Females	Total
1. Typhoid & paratyphoid fevers	-	-	-
2. Cerebro-spinal Fever	-	-	-
3. Scarlet Fever	-	-	-
4. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
5. Diphtheria	-	-	-
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	5	1	6
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	1	2
8. Syphilitic Diseases	3	-	3
9. Influenza	-	3	3
10. Measles	-	-	-
11. Acute polio-myelitis & polio-encephalitis	-	-	-
12. Acute infectious encephalitis	-	-	-
13. Cancer of buccal cavity & oesophagus (M) uterus (F)	2	3	5
14. Cancer of stomach & duodenum	3	2	5
15. Cancer of breast	-	1	1
16. Cancer of all other sites	11	11	22
17. Diabetes	1	-	1
18. Intracranial vascular lesions	7	6	13
19. Heart Diseases	25	26	51
20. Other diseases of circulatory system	6	7	13
21. Bronchitis	4	3	7
22. Pneumonia	7	5	12
23. Other respiratory diseases	-	1	1
24. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	3	-	3
25. Diarrhoea under 2 years	1	-	1
26. Appendicitis	-	-	-
27. Other digestive diseases	2	3	5
28. Nephritis	2	2	4
29. Puerperal & post-abortion sepsis	-	-	-
30. Other maternal causes	-	-	-
31. Premature birth	1	-	1
32. Congenital malformations, birth injuries, infantile diseases	4	2	6
33. Suicide	1	-	1
34. Road traffic accidents	1	-	1
35. Other violent causes	2	3	5
36. All other causes	10	12	22
All causes. Totals	102	92	194

Section B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES
FOR THE DISTRICT

Laboratory Facilities Water, milk, foodstuffs, sputa and swabs, etc., requiring Laboratory examination, are sent to the Clinical Research Association, London.

During 1948 the following specimens were dealt with:

Swabs for Diphtheria	16.	All negative.
Sputa for Tuberculosis	1.	Negative.

Water 1 sample from shallow well. Satisfactory.

Milk 1 sample. Satisfactory

Milk bottles 17. 15 Satisfactory, 2 Fairly Satisfactory.

Home Nursing Facilities The following nurses are employed by the Area Health Committee under powers delegated by the Middlesex County Council:

(a) Midwives

Sunbury, Shepperton, Halliford and Ashford Common

Feron, E.M., 57a Green Street, Sunbury

James, E.G.F. Bahram, Chertsey Road, Feltham

Greeno, J. Morrinhos, Crescent Road, Shepperton

(b) Home Nurses

Shepperton & Littleton: Mrs. E. Wright, 4 Rivermount,
Walton-on-Thames

Sunbury & Ashford Common: Miss G. Hatcher, 40 Linden Way,
Hampton.

The same Authority provides Home Helps in certain cases of illness and confinement.

Nursing Homes

<u>Proprietor</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>No. of beds Registered</u>	<u>No. of Maternity beds</u>
Mrs. M. Blamey & Mrs. D. Jones	Sunbury Nursing Homes (West Lodge, Weir House and Montford House)	61	-
Miss E.R. Jones	"Plas Gwyn" Manor Lane. Sunbury-on-Thames	1	1

The supervision of Nursing Homes is undertaken by the Middlesex County Council.

Hospital Accommodation Prior to the 5th July 1948, when the National Health Service Act came into operation, cases of Infectious Disease were admitted to the Staines Joint Isolation Hospital when necessary. Since this date, the North West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board has arranged for the admission of such cases to the South Middlesex Fever Hospital at Isleworth.

Ambulance Facilities

On the 5th July 1948, the District Council's ambulance was transferred to the control of the Middlesex County Council and is administered in conjunction with the Fire Service.

Ambulances are now located at the National Fire Service Depot, Green Street, Sunbury-on-Thames.

The Council's ambulance was used for the conveyance of Non-Infectious, Maternity and Accident cases, and during the period 1st January to 5th July 1948 it was called out as follows:

Accidents 66. Illness 178. Maternity 9.

(2,890 miles)

Insulin

Seven cases of Diabetes were receiving free insulin.

On the 5th July 1948, this arrangement was discontinued.

The School Health and Maternity and Child Welfare Services are operated by the Middlesex County Council which has delegated certain powers to the Area Health Committee.

These services provide the District with four Welfare Centres, three School Clinics and three Dental Clinics.

The Day Nursery in High Street, Shepperton provides accommodation for 50 children under 5 years of age. It is under the control of the Middlesex County Council, which has delegated certain powers to the Area Health Committee.

Section C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

This is satisfactory both in quantity and quality. Samples are examined periodically, No action was necessary in respect of any form of contamination.

The following water companies serve the District:

- (a) The Metropolitan Water Board Supplies Sunbury, Sunbury Common, Upper Halliford and Charlton.
- (b) The West Surrey Water Company Supplies Shepperton and Littleton.
- (c) The South West Suburban Water Company Supplies Ashford Common.

Approximately 150 dwellings are supplied from pumps from shallow wells and another hundred from standpipes connected to the public water mains. The remainder of the 6,485 dwellings in the District are connected direct to the public water mains.

Plans have been approved for supplying water direct from the mains to some 43 dwellings and other premises on the Fairholme Estate.

Drainage and Sewerage

The sewage is treated at the Sewage Disposal works at Mogden. Cesspools are still in use in connection with 300 dwellings and 30 business premises. Another 130 dwellings, mostly temporary, are provided with privies and Elsan Closets.

Refuse

This is disposed, under controlled conditions, on local tipping ground such as disused gravel pits. A comprehensive scheme for refuse disposal has now reached an advanced stage.

The following tables furnish particulars which are required by Section 128(3) of the Factories Act 1937 with respect to matters under Part I and Part VIII of that Act which are administered by this Council.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (Part I)

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	20	16	1	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	65	35	-	-
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	85	51	1	-

2. CASES in which DEFECTS were found (Part I)

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred To By H.M. Inspector		Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
Want of cleanliness	2	2			
Overcrowding					
Unreasonable temperature					
Inadequate ventilation					1
Ineffective drainage of floors					1
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) insufficient					
(b) Unsuitable or defective					1
(c) Not separate for sexes					
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)					
TOTAL	2	2			

3. OUTWORK (Part 8) ... Nil

Section D

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

No outbreak of infectious disease due to milk or other food occurred during 1948.

Milk There are 8 cowkeepers in the District and 8 registered as retail purveyors. One sample of milk was taken for laboratory examination and was satisfactory. Of 17 milk bottles examined bacteriologically, 15 were satisfactory and 2 fairly satisfactory.

Meat and Other Foods There are two small slaughter-houses in the Urban District and these are only used for emergency or occasional slaughtering.

The inspection of slaughter-houses, shops, stalls and vehicles, etc., where food is sold and prepared for sale has been continued. The number of visits made for this purpose was as follows:

Slaughter-houses	...	12
Dairies	...	27
Food Shops &c.	...	279

The following foodstuffs were adjudged unfit for human consumption and were voluntarily surrendered:

977 lbs	Meat
24 lbs	Meat products
1160 lbs	Fish
2 lbs	Margarine
703 cans	Miscellaneous foods
580 lbs	Oranges
112 lbs	Potatoes

In several instances the hygienic conditions of the premises were improved by the installation of hot and cold water. The floor of a cowshed in one Dairy farm was taken up and relaid.

The following table shows the number of carcasses inspected and condemned:

	Cattle excluding cows.	Cows	Calves	Sheep & lambs	Pigs
Number killed					10
Number inspected					10
All diseases except Tuberculosis:					
Whole carcasses condemned					Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned					Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with dis- ease other than tuberculosis					Nil
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole carcasses condemned					Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned					1
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tuberculosis					10%

Legal Proceedings In one instance a loaf of bread was seized and legal action taken against the vendor of the bread, for the sale of bread containing extraneous substances, to wit, a partly smoked cigarette. The case was dismissed under the Probation of Offenders Act, the vendor having to pay £10. 10. 0. costs.

Food & Drugs Act 1938 I am indebted to the Chief Officer of the Public Control Department of the Middlesex County Council for the following report as to samples purchased in this District during 1948 -

Article	Total number of samples procured	Number of samples adulterated or otherwise incorrect
Milk	31	-
Milk New	6	2
Milk Appeal to cow	2	-
Milk Channel Island	1	-
Cooked sausage	3	-
Gin	5	-
Meat Savoury	2	-
Orange wine (non-alcoholic)	1	-
Rum	1	-
Sausages	5	-
Sausage meat	6	-
Savoury roll	1	-
Whisky	11	1
	75	3

The two adulterated samples of new milk were procured from a wholesale bulk delivery in Sunbury and contained small percentages of added water.

An official cautionary letter was sent to the farmer concerned.

The adulterated sample of whisky was informally purchased and contained a small percentage of added water. Subsequent samples procured from the same Public House were genuine.

Section E

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES
(See Tables 2 and 3)

<u>Diphtheria</u>	There were no cases
<u>Poliomyelitis</u>	No cases occurred
<u>Meningitis</u>	One case of Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis. Sent to hospital for 5 weeks and recovered.
<u>Scarlet Fever</u>	Thirty-two cases notified. No deaths. 14 sent to hospital.
<u>Pneumonia</u>	One case only notified. Sent to hospital.
<u>Whooping Cough</u>	48 cases. There were no deaths. One was sent to hospital.
<u>Measles</u>	157 cases notified. No deaths. 2 sent to hospital.
<u>Puerperal Pyrexia</u>	No cases notified
<u>Food Poisoning</u>	There were no cases notified
<u>Tuberculosis</u>	46 new cases were entered in the Register. (See Table 4) There were 8 deaths.

The following infectious diseases were brought to the notice of the Department by Head Teachers: -

<u>Chickenpox</u>	38
<u>Mumps</u>	96

Scabies Treatment for Scabies is given at the Spelthorne Clinic, Chertsey Road, Ashford Common (by arrangement with the Middlesex County Council) twice a week, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, between the hours of 5 and 8 p.m.
During 1948, 84 persons were treated. (134 in 1947)
The incidence has fallen considerably from the high level of the war years.

Diphtheria Immunisation Immunisations carried out during the year were as follows:

<u>Under 5</u>	<u>5 to 14 years</u>	<u>Total</u>
314	77	391

Number of children who were given a secondary or reinforcing injection during the year 560

Immunisations are carried out at Welfare Centres and School Clinics and by local Medical Practitioners.

The majority of infants now receive inoculations of Whooping Cough Vaccine in combination with Diphtheria Prophylactic. At least 70% of children are thus protected against Diphtheria. In certain parts of the District, over 90% of infants receive protective inoculations.

Table 2

INFECTIOUS DISEASES
Notifications received during 1948 (By age and sex)

Age Years	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Measles		Pneumonia		Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 -	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-
1 -	2	-	1	9	5	5	1	-	-	-
3 -	2	4	6	8	17	13				
5 -	5	10	11	8	19	28				
10 -	2	5	-	2	28	29				
15 -	-	-	-	1	5	3				
25 & over	-	1	-	1	1	2				
Age unknown	-	-	-	-	-	1				
	12	20	18	30	76	81	1	-	1	-
Totals	32		48		157		1		1	

Table 3

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED 1948 (MONTHLY INCIDENCE)

Month	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles	Pneumonia	C.S. Meningitis	Totals
January	6	-	1	-	-	7
February	6	-	1	-	-	7
March	1	2	2	-	-	5
April	2	1	16	-	-	19
May	2	2	81	-	-	85
June	2	8	35	-	-	45
July	6	17	19	-	1	43
August	2	6	1	-	-	9
September	-	3	-	-	-	3
October	1	6	-	-	-	7
November	2	2	1	-	+	5
December	2	1	-	1	-	4
Totals	32	48	157	1	1	239

Table 4

TUBERCULOSIS 1948

<u>Age Periods</u>	<u>Deaths</u>		<u>New Cases Notified</u>	
	<u>Pul</u> M	F	<u>Non-Pul</u> M F	<u>Non-Pul</u> M F
Under 1 year				
1 - 4			2	-
5 - 10			1	- - 2
11 - 15			-	1 - 1
16 - 20			3	3 2 -
21 - 25	1	-	4	6
26 - 35	1	-	2	7 - 1
36 - 45			1	2
46 - 55	1	-	-	1 2 -
56 - 65	1	1	1	1
65 & upwards	1	-	3	1
Totals	5	1	1 1	19 21 2 4

Number of cases who have moved into the District during 1948 - 8

Number of cases who have moved to other Districts during 1948 - 9

Number of cases removed from the Register as "Recovered" - 4

